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U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20785

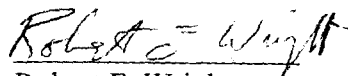
RE: Docket Number 98P-0151/CP1

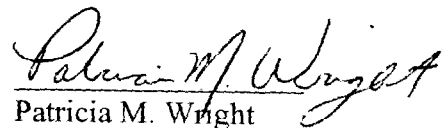
To whom it may concern:

I am writing to you concerning the horribly cruel downed animal trade. It is well documented that the marketing and slaughter of downed animals causes horrific suffering and presents unnecessary health risks to humans. Downed animals, animals too sick to even stand, are commonly left to suffer for hours and even days without receiving food, water or veterinary care. In many cases they die of neglect. If somehow they don't die, they are dragged to slaughter with chains or pushed with tractors and forklifts. These unspeakably cruel methods cause serious injuries such as abrasions, broken bones and torn ligaments. The animals who actually survive the handling and transportation are then typically slaughtered for human food. Therefore, not only does this trade cause immense and intolerable animal suffering, it also presents health risks to human health.

I have recently learned that the USDA has reviewed and revised its policy regarding the purchase of ground beef for the National School Lunch Program and other federal food and nutrition programs. This is a step in the right direction, but it is not enough. As citizens, we urge you to grant Farm Sanctuary's petition to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals. Please put an end to this despicable and unnecessary trade. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,


Robert F. Wright


Patricia M. Wright

98P-0151

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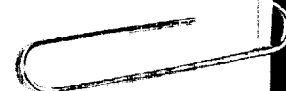
Ms. Patricia Wright
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